

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT
SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 2
June 16, 2011

Fisheries under consideration:	Non-Indian Commercial Shad
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- Through June 15, about 196,400 shad have passed Bonneville Dam, with the highest daily count of nearly 44,000 shad passing on June 13. Shad passage is typically 50% complete around June 12. During the most recent five years, shad passage at Bonneville has averaged 2.2 million fish, ranging from 1.0 to 4.0 million.
- A commercial shad fishery in Area 2S is open under permanent regulations from May 10 through June 20 annually. The season takes place daily from 3 PM-10 PM during Mondays through Friday, except closed on the observed Memorial Day holiday. The Washougal Reef area is also open this year per industry request under nearly the same season restrictions as the Area 2S fishery.
- Through June 3, around 2,000 shad had been landed, which is similar to the annual landings in 2009 and 2010. The majority of the catch typically occurs prior to mid-June. Sockeye and steelhead handle in this fishery is estimated to be very low.
- Effort in the shad fishery is typically market-driven. Several commercial shad fishers and shad buyers have requested an extension of the season. Since shad in the Columbia are non-native and under-utilized, the agencies have encouraged the commercial industry to find viable markets for shad. Availability of shad on the market plays a role in securing buyers for future years.

Recommendation - Non-Indian Commercial Shad Fishery

Season:	June 21-24, 2011. (4 additional days) Area 2S - Open daily from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Washougal Reef - Open daily from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. (midnight).
Areas:	<u>Area 2S</u> , described as: A true north/south line through Light #50 near the mouth of the Sandy River upstream to the commercial fishing boundary near Beacon Rock. <u>Washougal Reef</u> , described as: The waters of Zones 4-5 inside a line commencing at the white six-second equal-interval light approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ miles east of the Washougal Woolen Mill pipeline and projected westerly to the Washougal blinker light, thence to the four-second blinker light on the east end of Lady Island, thence easterly and along the shoreline of Lady Island to the State Highway 14 Bridge, thence easterly across the State Highway 14 Bridge to the mainland.
Gear:	Drift Gill net. Single-wall, unslackened, floater gill net; $5\frac{3}{8}$ " - $6\frac{1}{4}$ " mesh size restrictions; net may not exceed 150 fathoms in length or 40 meshes in depth. <u>Area 2S</u> : 10-lb breaking strength; Rip lines are authorized spaced not closer than 20 corks apart. <u>Washougal Reef</u> : 30-lb breaking strength.
Allowable Sales:	Only shad may be kept and sold. All other fish must be immediately returned to the water unharmed.

- Shad catch would be dependent on effort. Staff estimates less than six boats will participate during this last week of the season. Steelhead and sockeye handle is expected to be minimal. Impacts to ESA-listed salmonids are expected to remain within the estimated ranges provided in the ESA consultation.

FUTURE HEARINGS

- A hearing is scheduled for 1 PM Thursday June 23, via teleconference. Agenda items include recreational sturgeon fisheries in Bonneville Pool and the area below Wauna powerlines. Commercial treaty and non-Indian salmon fisheries may also be on the agenda.
- A fall Compact hearing is scheduled for 10 AM Thursday July 28 in the Astoria area; location to be determined.